

## **CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON**

### **Art Commission MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** March 25, 2008

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

#### **Arts Commission Members Present:**

☐ Shelley Brittingham  
☒ Donna DiFore  
☒ Rochelle Flynn  
☒ Victoria Hall

☒ Laurie Haslund  
☒ Maureen Hoffmann  
☒ Dane Johnson  
☒ Kathy Justin

☐ David Ketcherside  
☒ June Yormark

#### **Staff Present:**

Debbie Zemke, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Manager  
Gina Kallman, Cultural Arts Supervisor

#### **Guests:**

Rose Clark, City Councilmember  
Randi Lacey, Past Commissioner and Burien resident  
Matt Scarsella, Burien Teen Council  
Steve Edmiston, Federal Way resident interested in producing Highline High School-site based movie

#### **Minutes**

Meeting called to order. The February minutes were approved.

#### **Guest Speakers**

Filmmaker Steve Edmiston presented information on a short film he is producing locally in June. He is looking for city support for his film "The Day My Parents Became Cool" to be shot June 20-23, 2008 at Highline High School. The budget for the film is \$15,000 and the film will use 100-150 students and community members as extras. The film is about traditional conflicts between teens and parents similar to "Freaky Friday." The film will deal with fashion and body image and may eventually be used for curriculum development. Highline High School teens will be involved in advising on appropriate costumes, make-up and dialog.

Steve asked the Arts Commission if they or the City could provide funding, assistance with locations or strategic support. Highline School District Superintendent John Welch will be holding a fundraiser for the film production on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Rochelle volunteered to e-mail more information on the fund raiser. Following the recommendation of Councilmember Clark, the Commission suggested that Steve present his proposal to the Burien City Council regarding potential support. Rochelle volunteered to call Mayor Joan McGilton to assist Steve with getting on an upcoming City Council agenda. Councilmember Clark felt that this film would help with positioning Burien as an arts community.

Teen Council member Matt Scarsella spoke to the Arts Commission about the "Caravan of Cans" project, which involved garbage cans being painted by local artists and placed around the community during Burien Clean Sweep. Matt asked the Commission for assistance to find artists willing to design and paint the cans. Commissioner June Yormark volunteered to paint one can

and Gina Kallman volunteered to forward the Teen Council's City staff liaison, Amanda Morales, some possible leads and suggestions for artists.

## **2008 Focus Areas Committee Reports**

### **Visual Arts**

**Arts Education** – Victoria reported on the Grid Masterpiece Project. She has been able to recruit five instructors from four local high schools: Highline, Evergreen, Mt. Rainier and Seattle Christian. With the \$600 grant she will purchase art posters and art materials and hopefully have money left over to buy participants ice cream at the exhibit's opening. The opening celebration is planned for May. Victoria asked for volunteers from the Commission to assist with prepping the supplies for the schools.

**Public Art** – Installation of the temporary artwork on 152<sup>nd</sup> has been delayed due to time needed to organize all the logistics. Dane is continuing to explore the possibility is to have Ignition NW take out a \$50,000 insurance policy to cover the artists, and then having the City contract out with Ignition NW for the artwork installations. Dane and Debbie explained that 2 of the other Cities who have a Temporary Artwork program have different insurance policies than the City of Burien. Redmond provides insurance for 50% of the art value to artists if their work gets stolen. Debbie also explained that the Public Works staff person (Daniel Bretzke) she had been working with recently resigned, so will need to have this position filled before installation logistics can proceed.

The 4-Culture-administered panel for the Town Square principal artwork will meet on Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> to choose two additional artists who will join Dan Corson to design a total of three proposals for the artwork. Dane and Rochelle will represent the Arts Commission on the panel. Maureen and Donna are interested in attending and observing the process.

Artist Kim Graham, who fabricated the Tree Sculpture in Burien for the Bellagio Resort in Las Vegas, is planning on creating six sculptures to be sold and installed in cities, and possibly parks. Kim was very excited about working in Burien and is at this time looking for a large studio space/building to purchase. The six sculptures would be created with volunteer help and hopefully will be started this summer.

**Artist Housing** – Mayor Joan McGilton and City Council members Rose Clark, Sue Blazak, and Kathy Keene will join some Highline School Board members to tour the Youngstown Cultural Arts Center to explore further possibilities for artists' housing in Burien along with the potential for using Sunnydale School for community arts use in the future.

**Art Walk/Beat Walk** – Next meeting for the committee is scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup>. The Walk will be continued and embellished by adding more performance and music. Following further discussions and understanding of the Columbia City Beatwalk, it was noted that the following is needed prior to actual implementation of this ongoing program: downtown businesses participating and financially supporting the event; confirmation as to where funding come from; and resources to provide event management.

Discover Burien and the Old Burien Merchants Group have expressed an interest in assisting with these types of events. Laurie and Gina agreed that the best strategy would be to start small with success and then allow the event to grow into a monthly format if interest is generated. Lance and Laurie have also spoken to Mills Music and they are interested in participating in the event and possibly adding an educational aspect to the event. Another idea is to create a location for kids and adults to learn about musical instrument identification and to even have short music lessons during the event.

## **Literary and Performing Arts**

***Literary Arts*** – Nothing to report.

***City Arts Events*** – The majority of performers have been booked for the 2008 Strawberry and Arts Festival and Concerts in the Park. Staff is continuing to work with 4-Culture to choose unique site-specific works to bring to Burien. Unfortunately, 4-Culture has less money to work with this year, so Burien may have fewer options, but 4-Culture is interested in supporting some performances and still exploring the possible Holiday Laser show, which would be collaboration between the Burien Arts Association and City.

Kathy reported on the Holiday Laser show. BAA has been talking to a laser artist about creating an ambient space and BAA is also looking into putting together a concert during the light show. BAA's new director will be organizing the event and the BAA board is currently looking at insurance issues.

The King County Library system is also planning to place some of 4 Culture's Site Specific performances at many of its libraries this summer. Hopefully some of these events will be at the Burien Library and the community will also benefit from these cultural opportunities.

***Arts and Culture Fund*** – Debbie reported the clarity has been provided about how the Commission should resubmit their recommendation to City Council regarding the increase for the Arts and Culture Fund for the 2009 budget. This recommendation will be forwarded to both the City Manager and City Council in June. The funding policy will establish .2% of the City's General Fund each year (approx \$29,000 in 2008) for use as the Arts and Culture Fund grants. This recommendation should go to the City Council in June. The Commission was in favor of resubmitting this proposal.

## **Special Projects**

***Art Summit*** – Will be held Saturday, May 17 at the Karuna Yoga Studio, which is also where the City's Annual Awards Dinner will be held. 4 Culture will be providing facilitation. More information will be forthcoming.

***Burien Aesthetic Master Plan*** – Maureen met with the City's Community Development Director, Scott Greenberg, and Planner, David Johanson, to learn more about how aesthetics are incorporated into City planning. Maureen also spent much time reviewing the City's Comprehensive Plan and related documents. The City's Comprehensive Plan will be revised in 2011. Maureen is also enthused about a potential WayFinding Signage Project that the Community Development Department may be interested in working with the Arts Commission on.

Councilmember Clark said that the City Council will soon be discussing the general functions of the City's commissions and boards and how the Council can integrate them into various discussions.

***Cultural Diversity***– Shelley and Donna are looking at existing plans to integrate cultural identity into the city. Perhaps these philosophies into the Bus Shelter planning that Kathy had discussed at our previous meeting.

***Bus Shelter Project*** – Kathy has been meeting with Metro and discussing possible artist-enhanced Bus Shelters on Ambaum Blvd. At this time there are 12 bus shelters on Ambaum.

The biggest hurdle for developing bus artist enhanced bus shelters is the cost (\$2,000-\$5,000 per shelter). Some funding options are business sponsors or using city funds allocated for public art.

### **Staff Report**

***SoCo Culture*** – Debbie asked if Randi could report on the recent meeting in Des Moines. Randi explained that the focus was on initiating a tax that would provide money for arts and culture events. The King County Hotel Motel Tax that provides funding for 4-Culture has been extended for one year and will be reassessed in 2009. Debbie explained that this money provides funding for suburban cities' arts programs, including Burien. Gina and Rochelle reported that on May 14<sup>th</sup>, SoCo will be hosting an Open House (5:00-8:00 PM) at the Kent Senior Center for its member arts agencies and the public, and that everyone's invited.

***Washington Alliance for Arts Education***-Debbie reported that this organization will host its Annual Meeting at Teatro Zenzinni in downtown Seattle on Monday evening, May 5<sup>th</sup>. The City's Arts Commission is a member of this organization, and all Commissioners are invited to attend.

Meeting Adjourned.